(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The Industries and Commerce Department of the Government of Andhra Pradesh has been designated as the State Nodal Agency (SNA) for Andhra Pradesh for interaction with the Government of India concerning matters relating to the development of food processing industries in the State. The State Governmentof Andhra Pradesh has evolved a Food Processing Policy in June, 2005 to promote the food processing industries in the State. The State Nodal Agency has been interacting with the Ministry of Food Processing Industries in respect of various initiatives taken by the Ministry for the development and promotion of food processing industries. The SNA has also been providing an interface with the entrepreneurs in regard to various schemes of the Ministry.

Survey on processing of fruits and vegetables in U.P.

†2146. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any survey in U.P. for processing of fruits and vegetables;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the capacity of food and fruit processing industries established in the State during the last three years;

(d) whether Government are providing financial assistance to entrepreneurs of the State for stablishing cold storage facilities, storage facilities and laboratory testing facilities etc.;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether Government favour establishing food processing parks in the State;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTERY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. It indicates that the State of Uttar Pradesh is the largest producer of mango, aonla, peas and sweet potato. It is ranked sixth in vegetable production and eighth in fruit production in the country. The value of horticulture produce, at whole sale prices, works out to about Rs. 10,000 crore in the State and the post-harvest losses work out to Rs. 2000 crore. This offers a great potential for investment in post-harvest management, cold chain, distribution network for perishables and processing of horticulture produce.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI) has been providing financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid for Technology Upgradation/Establishment/ Modernization of food processing industries upto 25% of the cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakh in general areas and upto 33.33% in difficult area subject to a maximum of Rs. 75 lakh to various implementing agencies for the overall development of Food Processing Sector. The Ministry does not set up food processing industries of its own. The Ministry has approved financial assistance of Rs. 24.16 crore for the State of Uttar Pradesh during the last three year *i.e.* 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07.

(d) to (e) Under the Cold Chain component of Tenth Plan Scheme, assistance upto 25% of the cost of plant and machinery and technical civil, works in general areas and 33.33% in difficult areas with a common ceiling of Rs. 75 lakh was admissible to all implementing agencies. The assistance under the scheme was limited to cold storages for non-horticulture produces, special type of cold storages with controlled/modified atmosphere technology, cold storages as integral part of processing units or as a common facility in food parks. Besides, other agencies of Government of India like National Horticulture Board (NHB), Agriculture and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) and State Government also provide assistance under their respective schemes.

The budget allocation utilized by the Ministry on infrastructure development including cold storages during 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 was Rs. 11.82 crore, Rs. 15.65 crore and Rs. 13.21 crore respectively. Two cold storages have also been approved in Uttar Pradesh so far.

Although MFPI does not set up food testing laboratories of its own, it provides financial assistance for setting up/upgradation of food testing laboratories under its Plan. Scheme to various stakeholders such as Central/State Government organizations, IITs, Universities, private sector organisations. MFPI has approved financial assistance to five organizations in Uttar Pradesh under its Plan Scheme amounting to Rs. 9.48 crore.

(f) to (h) The MFPI provides financial assistance for establishment of food parks. It does not set up Food Parks on its own. The Ministry has approved financial assistance for five food parks in Uttar Pradesh *i.e.* Ghaziabad, Kharkion (District Varanasi), Kushalipur (District Saharanpur), Shahajanwa (District Gorakhpur), and Kursi Road (District Barabanki) and released an amount of Rs. 2.71 crore, Rs. 2 crore, Rs. 3 crore, Rs. 0.81 crore and Rs. 4 crore respectively for establishment of these Food Parks. Of these, Ghaziabad Food Park is under review and other four Food Parks are operational.

Wastage of fruits

2147. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of food processing industries existing in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether Government have made any assessment of quality of fruits required by the industries in the country;